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Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"When an hon. Member puts a question he generally makes his best endeavours to satisfy himself; that has repeatedly been the subject of discussion on the floor of this House."

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"Before making an enquiry whether an officer of the Government committed a criminal offence I must satisfy myself whether the Member has grounds for the allegation."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—"When a question has been put in the form in which it is put, I wish to know whether any further assurance from the hon. Member is necessary."

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"I think so."

Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu :—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to say whether after the receipt of the question Government moved in the matter to find out or verify the truth or the facts of the allegation?"

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—"I have answered that question."

Mr. S. Satyamurti :—"This is a matter of some importance, Sir; I do not know whether you would like to raise it now or after question time."

The hon. the President :—"I think that it would be better to raise it after question time."

Settlement

Supply of the scheme report for the resettlement of the Godavari and Kistna districts.

*21 Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state— 11-45 a.m.

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme report for the resettlement of the Godavari East and West and the Kistna districts was supplied only to the subscribers to the three district gazettes and not to every village along with the village sheet of the district gazettes;

(b) what is the number of subscribers to each of the district gazettes of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna; and how many of the subscribers in each case are private gentlemen and how many are servants of either the Government or of the local bodies;

(c) whether any cultivating ryots are subscribing to any of these district gazettes, and if so, how many such ryots there are; and

(d) whether the Government propose to publish the scheme report in question along with the village sheet of the three district gazettes and to distribute it to every village so as to place it within easy reach of the ryot population?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The scheme report was published in the district gazettes in December 1927. The Government do not know how many subscribers there are to the district gazettes or who they are. In February 1928, the report was placed at the disposal of the Press. A notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette* of 21st February stated that copies were then available

for sale at the Government Press. Owing to a misunderstanding in the Government Press, however, copies for sale were not, as a matter of fact, available there. The number of copies available for sale with the Collectors of West and East Godavaries was also inadequate. In June the hon. Member brought these facts to the notice of Government. Steps were immediately taken to have the available copies redistributed. Particulars regarding the number of copies originally kept for sale in the three districts, the number disposed of by sale or otherwise and the number available for sale after the redistribution are given in the following statements :—

District.	Number of copies kept for sale in February 1928.	Number supplied to Members of the Legislative Council free of cost.	Number sold.	Number available at the end of June 1928.	Number available according to the redistribution.
	English Edition.				
East Godavari ..	20	..	20	..	30
West Godavari ..	6	3	1	2	10
Kistna	54	6	..	48	10
Total ..	80	9	21	50	50
	Telugu Edition.				
East Godavari ..	27	..	15	12	20
West Godavari ..	4	1	1	2	12
Kistna	40	..	..	40	12
Government Press ..	..	..	..	..	10
Total ..	71	1	16	54	54

The three Collectors have recently reported that, since the redistribution, no copies have been sold and that additional copies are not required. The date by which Government desired to receive representations regarding matters other than rates was extended by three months to 30th September 1928, as it had been shown that the supply of copies of the report available with the Collectors of West and East Godavaries during June was inadequate.

(*d*) The answer is in the negative. As stated above, the Collectors have reported that after additional copies were made available none have been sold.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the District Gazette does not go to every village and that it is only the village sheet of the District Gazette that comes to every village ?"

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I think that is answered in the first part of the answer."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" Why did not Government propose to publish the scheme report in the village sheet of the District Gazette ? "

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The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" It is too long and elaborate for such publication, and I don't think any ryot will understand it. What we have to do is to make a summary of the recommendations."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" When are they going to do it—to give a summary of it in the village sheet ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" As soon as practicable."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" Have the Government given time to the ryots for making objections ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" Each man gets notice if any change is to be made."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" In regard to the general proposals made by the Settlement Officer comprehensively, objections are called for. Will the Government give better opportunity to the public to get at the contents of the report before the Government consider the report itself ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I have explained that there are certain proposals dependent on local conditions such as those in regard to the registration and description of lands into wet and dry ; in all these cases the individual ryot gets notice and has ample opportunities of making representations. As regards the general question whether the rates should be increased or reduced, certainly there is plenty of time, namely, up to 31st March 1929, given to the ryots."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" As to the other portion of the answer that an adequate number of copies of the scheme report are made available for sale with the Collectors of the three districts, may I know if it is notified either in the district gazette or village sheet or on the notice boards of the Collectors concerned that copies are available for sale."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not know in what form it is published. There was a notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and whether that notification was in the District Gazette or not I do not know, I must ask for notice."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" Notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette* was to the effect that copies are available for sale in the Government Press ; my question is whether the fact that copies are available for sale with the Collectors was anywhere notified."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I would ask for notice."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" With regard to (*d*), may I know how the ryots are expected to purchase them when it is not notified anywhere that the copies are available for sale with the Collector."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is argumentative."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the individual ryot has not to consider the general question of the raising of the rates before the Government proceeded to raise the rate actually ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I daresay, Sir, and that is why we have given such ample notice to them."

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Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the matter has been within the knowledge of the ordinary ryot in the village ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That is a matter of opinion ; personally I should say Yes."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know what steps were taken to bring it to the knowledge of the ryots in the village ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I must ask for notice if the hon. Member wants a specific reply."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" In view of the fact that the hon. the Revenue Member wants notice to state whether the ryot has had information or not, is he prepared to give us an undertaking that the question of rates will not be settled before the ryot is put in possession of the report ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" As far as I understand, there is no question of giving further time now. The date for the making of representation as regards the rates, is up to 31st March 1929."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know from the hon. the Revenue Member what information the ryot has got with regard to the general questions that he spoke of. He spoke of two different categories of questions, general questions and questions relating to particular holdings. Has the ryot had an opportunity of knowing the recommendations with regard to the general questions ? If he is not aware of the exact methods employed to bring the whole thing to the knowledge of the ryots in the village, will he give an undertaking that further time will be given for the consideration of the general question so that the ryots may come into possession of all facts and make representations ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I think that time up to 31st March 1929 will give them ample opportunity."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" Sir, may I know whether the scheme report was published in English only or whether it was published in the vernacular of the district also ? If it was not published in the vernacular of the district, may I know the reason ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" If the hon. Member will look into the answer he will find that there was a Telugu edition of the scheme report."

Sale of copies of the scheme report for the resettlement of the Godavari and Kistna districts.

* 22 Q.—Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the scheme report for the resettlement of the Godavari and Kistna districts was placed on the Editors' Table ; and

(*b*) whether an adequate number of copies of the report has been made available for sale to the public and if so, where ?

A.—(*a*) As explained in the answer to clause (*a*) of question No. 21 it was published in the district gazettes in December 1927 and was placed at the disposal of the Press in February 1928 but through a misunderstanding of instructions copies were not